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Meditsinskiy Rabotnik, No 24, 1949.

AGGILTINATION TEST FOR EVALVEMENTOUS TYPHUS CLAIMED AS SOVIET DISCOVERY

M. Los Chief of the Department Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology, Oask

For several years Soviet scientists have been using an agglutination test apparently discovered by Waidal-Felix, commonly known as the Waidal reaction. The author's curiosity was aroused after having used this reaction reveral times, and ne studied the history of its discovery. He was well rewarded, for he found that at the 3 July 1919 session of the Goriety of Microbiologists in Moscow G. V. Epshteyn reported the results of his studies on rickettsia and revealed an agglutination test.

In his experiments, Epshteyn used sheep intestines which contained large numbers of rickettsia bacteria. Moreover, in 1922, in works of the Fourth All-Russian Meeting of Bacteriologists and Epidemiologists (25 to 31 August 1920), Epshteyn submitted a report, "Collection of Research on Exanthematous Typhus," in which he described positive and negative reactions for agglutination tests.

It was not until 1923 that Waidal published an account of his work, and due to the wide dissemination of this report, the reaction became knows as the "Waidal Reaction." Thus once again Russian scientists have not been given the honor due them.

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